

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 1-3, 7, 11, 16, 17, 19-23, 25, 26 and 34-43 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a method of manufacturing a stretched mechanical fastening web laminate comprising a thermoplastic web layer and a fibrous web layer including one or more nonwoven materials free of staple fibers wherein stretching the laminate provides a stretched laminate having a basis weight of less than 100 g/m² and wherein a portion of the stretched fastening web laminate is incorporated into a component of a disposable absorbent article such that the male fastening elements of the portion of the stretched mechanical fastening web laminate are exposed and the fibrous web layer of the portion of the stretched mechanical fastening web laminate is not exposed in combination with the other features instantly claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFFREY WOLLSCHLAGER whose telephone number is (571)272-8937. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:45 - 4:15, alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson can be reached on 571-272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1791

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jeff Wollschlager/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1791

July 6, 2010